

HOUSE BILL 239

By Ramsey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, Part 4; Title 63 and Title 68, relative to cannabis oil for medical use.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, is amended by adding the following as a new chapter:

68-7-101.

(a) Notwithstanding title 39, chapter 17, part 4, a patient who is twenty-one (21) years of age or older is authorized to possess and use RSO oil in this state if the patient in possession of the oil possesses:

(1) A letter from the patient's primary care or treating physician that:

(A) Attests that the patient has been diagnosed with a life-threatening cancer by a rated or recognized licensed cancer center;

(B) Attests that the patient has received conventional methods of treatment for the patient's cancer and those methods have failed;

(C) Affirms that the physician has discussed with the patient potential risks from the use of RSO oil to treat or alleviate the patient's cancer or symptoms associated with the patient's medical treatment for cancer;

(D) States the patient acknowledges and accepts the risks in using RSO oil as an alternative or supplemental treatment for the patient's cancer and waives any liability of the physician as it relates to the patient's use of RSO oil;

(E) States that the patient shall not use RSO oil, and the physician shall not approve the use of RSO oil, in conjunction with an opioid; and

(F) Is signed and dated by both the patient and physician and attests that the letter was signed and dated in the presence of each other; and

(2) Proof the RSO oil was purchased at retail in a jurisdiction where the sale of RSO oil is lawful.

(b) A letter described in subdivision (a)(1) is valid only for a period of one (1) year from the date of signing.

(c) For purposes of this section, "RSO oil" means a full extract cannabis oil containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) that is intended to be ingested orally or used topically.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.